

cise in combining their interests, we will start a nation wide agitation for government ownership of railways. And not at their watered stock terms, either, but with all the wind and water squeezed out. The country is ripe for such a moveemnt. This is no idle threat, as they know."

The Fourteenth Amendment

Passed to Abolish Slavery, is Now to Institute Slavery—More Government by Injunction.

The Fourteenth Amendment's in again.

U. S. Circuit Judge C. C. Kohlsaas yesterday temporarily enjoined the City of Chicago, its mayor, chief of police, corporation counsel or any of its officers or agents—in other words, **the people of Chicago**—from enforcing the ordinance passed by the city council July 17, 1911.

That ordinance regulates the price of gas, and aims to cut the rate immediately to 75 cents and ultimately to 68 cents.

The ground on which Judge Kohlsaas issued the injunction is that under the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, such arbitrary regulation of prices by the people is unconstitutional.

The Fourteenth Amendment was passed in bitter bloodshed for one reason, and for one reason only.

It was passed to prevent slavery ever again being practised in this country.

How little did the men who framed it; and who paid for its framing with their blood, imagine that in after years that amendment to the constitution was to be used to permit corporations to enslave the people.

But that is what has come to pass through the decisions rendered by Supreme court of the United States.

The exact words of the Fourteenth Amendment on which the corporations—in this case the Gas Trust of Chicago—hang their hats are:

"—No person shall be deprived of life, limb, or property without due process of law—"

The men who wrote that amendment into the constitution thought they were banishing slavery from the United States.

But since its passage, the Supreme Court has taken five words in the amendment—"without due process of law"—and with these five words has contrived to decide time and again that the people may not stop public service corporations from holding them up.

All hail the Fourteenth Amendment, savior of the trusts and public service corporations!

"All Germans look in confidence to the crown, and the more it is encircled and supported by the loyal love of the people, the mightier will it be." Certainly. Who said it? The modest, retiring German emperor himself. He believes that if he doesn't toot his horn it may not be tooted.